

# Fashions From Three Centers

## PARIS FASHIONS.

BY MADAME PARQUIN.

Paris, Sept. 7.—The lingerie undershirts are increasing in beauty, and no description can do justice to the charm of the embroideries and laces used, and of the skill with which they are introduced on some of the designs. The simplest form of the handsome lingerie undershirt is a fitted top of soft lawn, finished with a deep flounce of hand-embroidered lace, set on by a wide band of beading. Wide Liberty satin ribbon is run through the beading, and tied in long loops and ends at the left side or on both sides. The body of the skirt usually extends beneath the flounce and finished with a narrow lace trimmed ruffle.

While the beauty and fineness of the embroidery flouncings make many of these more simple models elaborate and costly, yet seen in the most unpretentious compared with the models with deep flounces of inset laces and tuckings, hand-embroidered, motifs and lace frills. Particularly pretty are the undershirts with flounces of Valenciennes insertion, edged with lace to match, tied at intervals with dainty little knots of satin ribbon, in pale shades of blue and pink.

Many of the flounces on the fine lingerie undershirts are extremely deep and full, but they are so carefully shaped, and set on the foundation so smoothly with little tucks, that there is no awkward fullness at the point of union, and the flounces seem merely a continuation of the top, flaring to great width at the edge. Even in the case of narrower flouncing the flounce is usually set on smoothly with tiny tucks instead of being gathered.

Colored washing undershirts are enjoying an unusual vogue; some of them are extremely smart. The colored flounces embroidered in self-colors, are very serviceable, and there are attractive undershirts in linen, embroidered in contrasting colors—soft blue or rose embroidered in white, ecru embroidered in blue, red or brown, etc.

Skirts of lawn are shown with colored embroidery, the white or ecru flounce having button-holed scallop edges and embroidery design above the blue, rose, red or brown, etc. These petticoats are exceedingly chic when worn with a frock of the color represented in the embroidery.

Chiffon tulle is the favorite material for the silk undershirt, but some of the most handsome designs are in brocade of some sort, the soft, supple satin brocades in monotone coloring or in white or pale yellow being particularly favored. A skirt of this lovely material, although expensive at first, is most economical, and wears surprisingly well, and the foundation will usually outlast several silk flounces.

Flounces of chiffon are worn with these undershirts, intricately trimmed with inset lace matching the color of the brocade, while flounces of cream net, adorned with baby ribbon or merely draped over an under-flounce in a contrasting design, caught by knots of colored ribbons, are another popular ornamentation.

I have lately seen some white linen skirts which were specially designed for a Russian princess who intends spending the late summer and autumn at Biarritz, and I was immensely struck by their grace of outline and exceeding simplicity; they were, in fact, quite different from the point of view of a la mode. The skirts themselves were arranged in seven or nine gorges and the seams were double-stitched on the outer side; at the hem, in each case, there was a kilted flounce, of about 14 inches in depth. This flounce was arranged in deep kilts, and there was no material underneath, so that it fluffed out over the feet in a most engaging manner.

Some of the skirts were trimmed with elaborate machine-stitched strappings above the flounce, and others had several transparent insertions of flit lace. The trimmings differed considerably, but in each case the skirt was done in gorges—the bias material meeting the straight—and in each case there was the kilted flounce. These dresses were not quite "round," but lay on the ground a couple of inches at the back, but they looked most graceful when lightly caught up in the right hand.

From every point of view a skirt of this genre is desirable. It could be made to be becoming and the kilted flounce—being perfectly straight—would wash and iron perfectly, and then the kilted hem made the skirt bang well all round. Many Parisiennes cling to the plain gored skirt for linen gowns, and to tall, slender figures it is wonderfully becoming, but it requires to be made by a first-class tailor and finished with exquisite care in every detail. The skirts described could be made at home by any clever amateur dressmaker.

With white linen skirts made in the fashion just described, dainty little blouses of finest white muslin done in many tucks, should be worn, and then over all one of the smart little lace bolero coats. The whole costume would be simple as possible, but in perfect taste.

This year I do not see so much heavy linen used for dresses; the favorite white material is very like white Oxford shirting, soft and pliable, and possessed of sufficient substance. This softer linen keeps clean much longer than the famous toile nationale, and it does not easily crush.

Though white gloves have already received notice to quit the realms of fashion save for evening wear and with the white toile, they are still being ordered and worn in the daytime. But to render those that are absolutely new in design different from their fellows of past days, they have gauntlets lined with a color and folded carelessly outward. The newest gauntlets are those that are fixed in their place with a single stud button made of ivory to match the turnover in color.

One sees nothing but white these days on both poor and wealthy children. Even in France, where economy is so rigidly observed and where washing is expensive, the children affect white more or less all the year round, but it has been particularly noticeable this year in spite of the cool days. Stiff Swiss is employed for the best frocks, and hand embroidery in coarse, large patterns is in vogue. A dress seen on the Place de Vendôme had the entire front of the garment tucked in spaces an inch wide, and each tuck was whipped in narrow Valenciennes lace. The skirt was made of wider tucks and finished in Valenciennes of a width to correspond, and the effect was most pleasing. Low necks have been a feature of the children's clothes this year. In many establishments the cut extends almost to the shoulder and the sleeves are so abbreviated that they are merely excuses for sleeves. The armhole, a style followed by grown-ups, is so much hollowed out

## LONDON FASHIONS.

BY MAY DAWSON.

London, Sept. 7.—The outdoor season is with us, but owing to the cool weather dressmakers have had to tax their inventive powers somewhat strenuously to create some effective gowns that will look light and pretty, without presenting a too ethereal appearance. For this purpose ribbon seems to lend itself particularly well, and one or two delightful gowns have been evolved with the aid of this happy trimming. A lovely shade of maize crepe de chine had a mass of frills at the lower part of the long, full skirt, each of which was edged with soft, gauzy ribbon in just a trifling shade deeper maize. These frills were in crescent form, and from the center of each arose a long, trailing spray of Alan Richardson roses, winding upward into mere tendrils near the waist line. The corsage of Mechlin lace was arranged with Romney folds, edged with tiny frills to correspond, and a large bunch of deep roses. The foundation of this gown was of rose pink, which gave to the over-dress a charmingly attractive tone. A large Cloche hat of burnt straw, covered with Alan Richardson roses in profusion, was destined to be worn with this.

Another ribbon gown in a pale, cool-looking mauve nixon was striped from waist to hem with mauve satin ribbon about two inches wide, over an undershirt of silver tissue fabric. An Empire coat of brocade crepe de chine in silver tissue, softened with old lace jabot and sleeve frills, was a most original model, and one of the large hats, upturned in front, with immense bows and loops of striped mauve and silver ribbons.

Lace gowns, accompanied by sleeveless brocade coats, that are out in the shape of a long "V" into the waist back and front and clasped by either a paste buckle or large old silver buttons, will be much seen; these coats have a swallow-tailed basque, and are cut right away in front immediately below the fastenings, and are lined with a pale contrasting color. These coats will also be seen in plain tulle, although the brocades are more dressy.

A dress of finest embroidered muslin with a novel cape, cut at the back almost like a court train, only modified in length, is one of fashion's latest fancies, and looks most picturesque. This mantle is in white lace or Liberty satin, and has a border of pale pink rosebuds right round the cape and down each side of the train. Just above the waist is a large double bow of black velvet, and the neck of the cape, slightly in V-shape, is outlined with two narrow folds of velvet, and a large black picture hat with La France roses swathed in pale pink tulle.

Broad bands of flit lace or fish-net, with raised embroideries, will also be used for trimming linen and lawn gowns, and can be employed most effectively in simulation of Princeps, stole, the look, broad ends of which fall to the hem of the gown, front and back, and are finished with a long knotted fringe. The kimono-formed sleeves is also finished with this trimming.

Although some gowns are very elaborate in trimming and embroideries, others are a very great contrast. For young girls a nun-like simplicity is encouraged, and the material is of a simple, silken lawn in ivory white made in very, very fully gauged skirts almost recalls the housemaids skirts of some thirty years ago. The simple bebe corage is also fully gauged at the neck and waist, and a soft Liberty satin is tied in careless fashion and allowed to fall to the hem of the skirt. These frocks may be also made in pale shades of nixon or mousseline de sole, and instead of gauging, they may be honey-combed or smoked. Lace coats, in sacque shape, with Japanese sleeves, look well with these little frocks, and large Scotch or old English sunbonnets are likely to be seen again. For young girls who adopt this simple and picturesque style.

The combination of white and black lace over several foundations of white mousseline de sole or chiffon is a favorite one, the white predominating. A lovely gown of white Spanish lace, inset with Chantilly motifs and medallions in this form, makes an ideal garden party dress for an elderly woman, while in all-black Chantilly with shaped volants of black panne and a semi-long coat in the same lace fitting to the waist, with high ceinture of panne and the kimono sleeves and very distinguished also. The small Princess bonnet of black lace, with cut-jet border and aigrette, is in vogue again for elderly and young women also. Narrow velvet ribbons tied in a chic little bow under the chin, with a rose or any other favorite flower adjusted beneath it, gives a becoming and effective finish.

Country clothes to be smart must be tailor-built, with shirt and hat to correspond, while careful attention must be paid to such details as gloves, stocks, cravats and waistbands.

For wearing with walking costume there are trim shoes of russet leather, from the plain model to the most ornate confection, decorated with buckles, bows of leather, and wide silk laces tied in large artistic bows. The shoes designed for evening wear are made of satin, plain and brocade, of silk, of the finest soft suede, of velvet and of lace, decorated with gold and silver, and even the heels are quite works of art, inset, as some of them are, with semi-precious stones. The evening shoes of lace are the acme of daintiness. The lace, of course, is of a rather heavy kind, as very fine lace would crease and not wear so well, and the foundation is soft satin, sometimes in a contrasting shade. Small glittering buttons are used as a further decoration.

For ordinary, everyday country wear, nothing is more becoming than the fascinating wide brimmed sailors in coarse straw. Panama chip, or even taffeta, is simply trimmed with ribbon bows, a band of gold or silver tissue, or ribbon or velvet ruffles. The popularity of wings and quills does not abate, and these are improved by the variegated chiffon or lace scarf or veil.

that it extends almost to the short waist line. As a matter of course a fancy guimpe or another waist is supposed to finish off the outer frock. The effect of the blouse then is exactly the same as that on a fashionable gown. Up to 8 or 10 years of age children in this part of the world wear their skirts to or above the knee. A girl of 15 or thereabouts dons a frock to the shoe tops at that age and not until then, for she is not supposed to put on long skirts until ready to enter society, which is usually at about 18.

## NEW YORK FASHIONS.

BY EDITH RAYMOND.

New York, Sept. 7.—In every department the reports show that retailers are buying heavily for fall, and this is the best proof that can be asked for that the condition of the country is healthy. The movement on the better grade lines of dress goods, silks and household goods is additional proof that the consumers are not conceding a disposition to buy cheap merchandise or to cut down their purchases. Retailers are seeking stocks of hosiery and underwear and find that all of the western houses are short.

The number of buyers in town does not diminish, for fresh arrivals from all parts of the country daily fill up the ranks. More interest is being shown in the special white goods sales than such offerings have called forth in several seasons. At the prices which prevail every buyer who visits the market feels compelled to take some of the goods offered. Some buyers are placing large orders.

With one of the best fall demands for silk piece goods seen in many years the silk trade is very cheerful over the present season's business as well as that to come during the spring season of 1908. The fall and winter months are never considered as a good period for the "queen" fabric so that the present business is a good indication of what may be expected when the spring opens up with new arrivals. The present week is rapidly making new records for business put through this fall.

Buyers seem to have every confidence in the stability of silks for fall and winter wear, and are showing no hesitation over selecting well assorted and extensive stocks with which to meet anticipated requirements. Not only will all silk tailor-made costumes be worn to quite an extent, but as fashion has decreed that the open weaves in dress fabrics are the right thing also for the coming fall and winter months, a large yardage of goods will be required for foundation purposes over which to make up these costumes.

Another feature of the present demand is the heavy call for all classes of silk linings, which are being taken in spite of the high prices. It is also the fact that the various mercerized fabrics are now of such a finish as to very closely resemble a genuine silk fabric.

The only blot upon an otherwise clear horizon seems to be the strikes that have occurred at the various broad silk plants, and also in the throwing mills; some of the throwsters have compromised with their operatives and the shorter working hours and higher wages will result in the principal grades of raw silk costing the manufacturer more money. Quite a few larger throwsters have refused to sign the agreement submitted by the strikers.

A glance at the new trimmings which are due before very long settles the question as to plain or elaborate effects for the coming season. The new braids, galons and passementeries that are provided for the tailor are lovelier than ever, or else the gloss of their newness blinds one to facts. The hand-made trimmings are, of course, made by hand—that is, the woven braids are twisted and twined by hand into the most attractive shapes and motives. Many mixed threads are among them and many combinations of color. Different colored and woven braids are worked together in infinite variety of design and effect. The immense quantities of such trimmings provided for the fall and winter can mean nothing else than that all materials—cloth, velvet and fur—are to be elaborated with them as they have seldom been before. A sealskin kimono seen recently illustrates one side of the question. The fur was wrought with black braid as if it had been cloth and not the skin of an animal which is worth its weight and more in gold. Mannish effects are to prevail in morning tailor-mades, but much of their severity will be lost by the trimmings lavished upon them.

The short waist inspired by the Empire style is still in evidence and appears in new suits prepared for the fall. A model seen recently was made of coarse pongee trimmed with braid and buttons. The half-length coat cut away in the front is popular for the early season, but no one knows as yet how long its vogue will remain. Deep hems of flit finish many of the pongee casino coats which have no rival in popularity.

The quaintest wrap to be introduced this season is the shawl of chiffon, thin silk or crepe de chine edged with tiny flounces headed with baby velvet ribbon and draped with the same ribbon. They are drawn down the middle of the back with the ribbon.

A stunning new suit worn for the first time last week is of a reddish brown tone that is more the shade of cold tongue than anything else. It was braided elaborately in one of the old slightly padded patterns which will be much used during the coming season. The vogue of braided patterns on transparent fabrics will hold good also for fall. The fashion of veiling striped silks with transparent fabrics is one of the fancies of the present. Tulle, lace, chiffon and net are all much used in this way.

A model seen in one of the fashionable dressmaking establishments was copied bodily from a fashion plate of long ago. The gown was a lovely shot silk made with a full skirt and plain front panel. There was a long pointed seamless bodice with the silk draped becomingly to the figure, and lace at the throat and for the three-quarter length undersleeves. The sleeves, throat and bodice were trimmed with quaint velvet bows that end in danglers.

Parasol handles carved and colored like flowers are one of the pretty fancies. They are in the color and form of forget-me-nots, white camellias, roses, foliage, etc. White or natural wood handles are used for the purpose.

White silk stockings with bands embroidered in gold reaching almost to the top of the front are new.

Among the striking styles of the present are the immense hats turned sharply back at the front and side and surmounted with plumes of extravagant length and width. The handsomest hats of the kind are lined with silk of a contrasting shade. Big choix of tulle trim some such hats, though masses of flowers are still in great evidence. For evening hats feathers are the approved trimming. The osprey and paradise feathers are the most popular.

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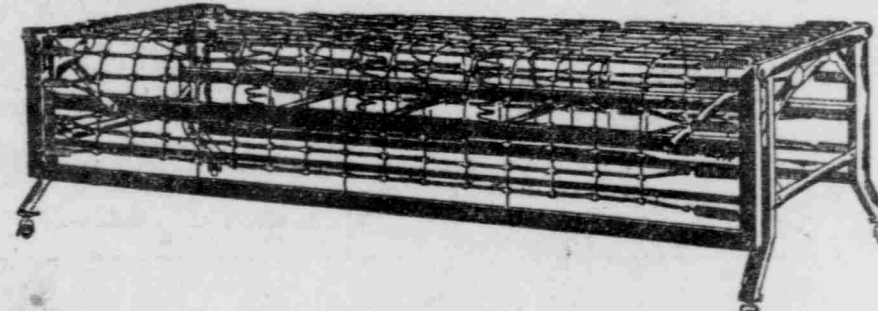
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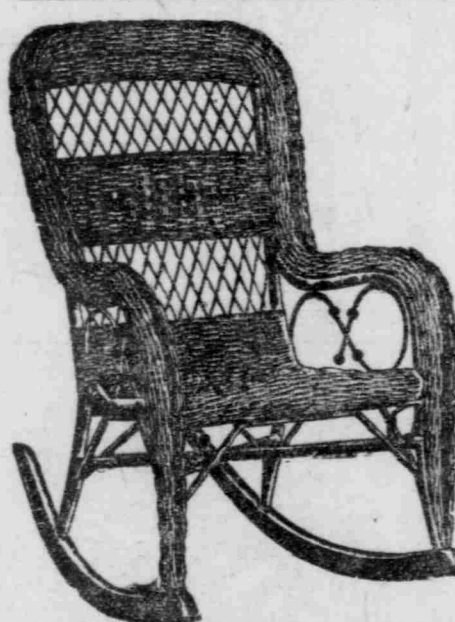
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